1987-88 is yet to be collected. However 800 students have been selected for admission into the eleven Vidyalayas in the year 1987-88.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. One more Navodaya Vidyalayas has been sanctioned to be established during 1988-89 in Orissa at village Salabani in Maayourbhanj district

Cigarette with less cancer risk

2953. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that safer cigarettes developed by some of the large cigarette manufacturers with reduced cancer risks have not been introduced in the market and if so, reasons therefor; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the quality of tobacco used in cigarettes in India even in the foreign brand names is of far inferior quality than used in western countries and thus liable to cause more diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) There is no safe cigarette. Cigarette and bidi smoking, irrespective of tar and nicotine content, is injurious to health.

(b) The available data indicate that tar and nicotine contents of Indian cigarettes and bidi are higher than that used in Western countries.

'Bandh' notice by Commerical Transport Operators

2954. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seven lakh Commercial Transport Operators have decided to go on an indefinite country-wide Bandh beginning 31st March, 1988, if their demands are not conceded by Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the grievances of the Transport Operators and what necessary action is being taken by Government to give protection to the consumer transporters to avoid the proposed Bandh-call?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) A press release has been received from Secretary General, All India Motor Transport Congress, New Delhi stating that *Commercial road transport vehicles* will be withdrawn from roads from the mid-night of 31st March, 1988. The demands of the Transport Operators are import of tyres under Open General Licence, roll-back of tyre prices and making mandatory the embossing of retail selling price on tyres/tubes, (ii) rationalisation and uniformity of price of High Speed Diesel in the Country (iii) reduction of cumulative burden of Central and State duties & taxes on road transport. The demands have been brought to the notice of Ministry of Industry and Finance which are the concerned Ministries with regard to pricing and taxation in tyre Industry.

"फ्रीडम फ्रंट ओनली टु इम्प्रेस राजीव" शीर्षक से समाचार

2955. **श्री रशीद मसूद** : क्या **मानव संसाधन विकास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 1 मार्च, 1988 के इंडियन एक्सप्रेस, में "फ्रीडम फ्रन्ट ओनली टु इम्प्रेस राजीव" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सन्दर्भाधीन स्वतन्त्रता मोर्चे तथा इसके क्रियाकलाप का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) उस पर सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के युवा कार्य और खेल तथा महिला और बाल विकास विभागों में राज्य मंत्री श्रीमती मारग्रेट अल्वा) : (क) से (ग) सरकार का ध्यान 1 मार्च, 1988 के इण्डियन एक्सप्रैस में छपे समाचार की ओर आकर्षित किया गया है । "ग्रेट फ्रीडम रन" पूणे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मैराथन ट्रस्ट द्वारा आयोजित की गई थी । आयोजकों ने सूचित किया है कि "ग्रेट फ्रीटम रन" में 1 लाख से अधिक लोगों ने भाग लिया था । "ग्रेट फ्रीडम रन" के लिए सरकार द्वारा कोई वित्तीय सहायता नहीं दी गई थी ।

2956. [*Transferred to the 28th March, 1988*].

Facilities to catering vendnig/bookstall etc. at Railway Stations

2957. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any directive for not providing essential facilities i.e. catering vending/bookstall etc. on vacant/new stations/platforms within the area of metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, what are the detailed reasons for imposition of the ban for providing these facilities on vacant/new stations and platforms within the area of metropolitan cities: and

(c) what are the criteria for providing these facilities within the area of metropolitan cities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The factors taken into account for providing catering/vending and bookstall facilities at any station/platform are volume of passenger traffic, number and timings of stopping trains, demand from the passengers, congestion on platform, width of platform etc.

Writ Petition No. 386/87 by the Agents/Vendors of Gulab Singh and Sons

2958. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agents/vendors of M/s. Gulab Singh and Sons have declared in the Civil Writ Petition No. 386/87 in Supreme Court that the entire work is sublet to them;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Agents/vendors made a representation to the Ministry that they are running the bookstalls with their own investment since March, 1985, paying the lumpsum amount in shape of rent to M/s. Gulab Singh and Sons; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Some applications have been received from some Agents/Vendors of Gulab Singh & Sons for allotment of bookstalls in which it has been stated that the applicants are running bookstalls with their own investments since March 1985 and paying some rent to M/s. Gulab Singh & Sons.

(c) The applications for allotment of bookstalls will be considered by the Northern Railway as per extent policy, and in the light of the observations of the Supreme Court made in the order passed in writ petition No. 386 of 1987.

Allotment of bookstalls to M/s. Shikshit Berojgar Mudran Prakashan Sehkari Samiti Ltd.

2959. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2577 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd December, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Shikshit Berojgar Mudran Parkashan Sehkari